1    1.    (Currently Amended) A method of presenting an execution plan for a
2    query, comprising:
3        determining steps of the query execution plan in for a parallel database
4    system;
5        displaying the steps of the query execution plan in a graphical user
6    interface; and
7        depicting parallel execution of steps of the query execution plan in the
8    graphical user interface,
9        wherein depicting the parallel execution of steps comprises displaying
10   plural elements corresponding to concurrently executing plural steps on respective
11   processors of the parallel database system.


1    2.    (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the
2    steps comprises determining steps of the query execution plan in for the parallel database
3    system running in a multiprocessing platform having plural nodes processors.


1    3.    (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the
2    steps comprises determining steps of the query execution plan in for the parallel database
3    system running in a platform having plural virtual processors to handle access to data in
4    the parallel database system.


1    4.    (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein displaying the steps
2    plural elements comprises displaying plural the steps as icons.


1    5.    (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the database
2    management system is executable in a platform, and wherein displaying the icons
3    comprises displaying one or more of the icons selected from the group consisting of an
4    icon representing a table, an icon representing an operation performed on a component of

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|---|---|
| 5 | the platform, an icon representing a query statement, and icon representing an operation |
| 6 | performed on two or more tables. |

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| 1 | 6. | (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the steps of the |
| 2 | | query execution plan is performed by an optimizer. |

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| 1 | 7. | (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein determining the |
| 2 | | steps of the query execution plan is performed by ~~an~~ the optimizer based on emulated |
| 3 | | environment data of a target system, the optimizer and emulated environment data |
| 4 | | present in a test system, the target system comprising the parallel database system. |

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| 1 | 8. | (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the |
| 2 | | steps of the query execution plan is performed in a test system based on emulated |
| 3 | | environment data of a target system that is separate from the test system, the target |
| 4 | | system comprising the parallel database system. |

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| 1 | 9. | (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying explain |
| 2 | | text of the query execution plan. |

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| 1 | 10. | (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein displaying the explain text |
| 2 | | comprises displaying the explain text in a first screen, and wherein displaying the steps of |
| 3 | | the query execution plan comprises displaying the steps in a second screen. |

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| 1 | 11. | (Original) A method of testing performance of a query, comprising: |
| 2 | | determining a first execution plan of the query under a first condition; |
| 3 | | determining a second execution plan of the query under a second |
| 4 | | condition; and |
| 5 | | displaying the first and second execution plans concurrently to enable |
| 6 | | comparison of the execution plans. |

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1     12.    (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein displaying the first and

2    second execution plans comprises displaying the execution plans in a graphical user

3    interface.

1     13.    (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein displaying the first and

2    second execution plans comprises displaying the execution plans in a graphical user

3    interface having a first screen to display the first execution plan and a second screen to

4    display the second execution plan.

1     14.    (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein displaying the first and

2    second execution plans comprises displaying a collection of icons to represent steps of

3    each of the execution plans.

1     15.    (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

2               determining a third execution plan of the query under a third condition;

3    and

4               displaying the first, second, and third execution plans concurrently to

5    enable comparison of the execution plans.

1     16.    (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein determining the first

2    execution plan comprises determining an execution plan for the query in cooperation with

3    a first version of a software module of a parallel database system.

1     17.    (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein determining the second

2    execution plan comprises determining an execution plan for the query in cooperation with

3    a second version of the software module of the parallel database system.

1     18.    (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein determining the first

2    execution plan comprises determining an execution plan for the query in a system having

3    a first arrangement.

1          19.    (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein determining the second

2    execution plan comprises determining an execution plan for the query in a system having

3    a second arrangement.

1          20.    (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein determining the first

2    execution plan comprises determining an execution plan involving a table having a first

3    content.

1          21.    (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein determining the second

2    execution plan comprises determining an execution plan involving the table having a

3    second content.

1          22.    (Previously Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the second

2    content contains statistics.

1          23.    (Previously Amended) A system comprising:

2                a graphical user interface; and

3                a controller to determine an execution plan of a query based on emulation

4    data that emulates an environment of a target system in which a parallel database system

5    is implemented,

6                the controller to display a representation of the execution plan in the

7    graphical user interface.

1          24.    (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the emulation data comprises

2    cost-related information including a number of nodes in the target system and a number

3    of CPUs in each node.

1          25.    (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the emulation data comprises

2    cost-related information including a number of virtual processors running in the target

3    system.

1    26. · (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the emulation data comprises
2    cost-related information relating to costs of doing operations in the target system.

1    27.    (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the emulation data represents a
2    target system having a multi-node parallel processing system.

1    28.    (Cancel)

1    29.    (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the emulation data represents a
2    target system running plural virtual processors for handling access to the parallel database
3    system.

1    30.    (Currently Amended) An article comprising one or more storage media
2    containing instructions that when executed cause a controller to:
3         determine an execution plan of a query for a parallel database system;
4         display the steps of the execution plan in a graphical user interface; and
5         depict parallel execution of steps of the execution plan in the graphical
6    user interface,
7         wherein depicting the parallel execution of steps comprises displaying
8    plural elements corresponding to concurrently executing plural steps on respective
9    processors of the parallel database system.

1    31.    (Previously Added) The article of claim 30, wherein the instructions when
2    executed cause the controller including an optimizer to determine the execution plan of
3    the query.

1    32.    (Previously Added) The article of claim 30, wherein the instructions when
2    executed cause the controller to receive environment information to emulate a target
3    database system.

1    33.    (Previously Added) The article of claim 32, wherein the instructions when

2    executed cause the controller to determine the execution plan of the query based on the

3    environment information.


1    34.    (Previously Added) The article of claim 30, wherein the execution plan

2    comprises a first execution plan, wherein the instructions when executed cause the

3    controller to further:

4         determine a second execution plan of the query for the parallel database

5    system;

6         display the steps of the second execution plan concurrently with the steps

7    of the first execution plan in the graphical user interface.


1    35.    (New) The method of claim 1, wherein displaying the plural elements

2    comprises displaying the plural elements side-by-side to indicate concurrent execution of

3    the respective steps.


1    36.    (New) The method of claim 35, further comprising displaying other

2    elements in sequence with the plural side-by-side elements to indicate sequential

3    execution of other steps corresponding to the other elements.


1    37.    (New) The method of claim 11, wherein determining the first execution

2    plan comprises determining the first execution plan in a parallel database system

3    environment, determining the second execution plan comprises determining the second

4    execution plan in the parallel database system environment, and displaying each of the

5    first and second execution plans comprises displaying plural elements corresponding to

6    concurrently executing plural steps on respective processors of the parallel database

7    system environment.


1    38.    (New) The method of claim 37, wherein displaying the plural elements

2    comprises displaying the plural elements side-by-side to indicate concurrent execution of

3    the respective steps.

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1        39.     (New) The method of claim 38, further comprising displaying other

2    elements in sequence with the plural side-by-side elements to indicate sequential

3    execution of other steps corresponding to the other elements.


1        40.     (New) The article of claim 30, wherein displaying the plural elements

2    comprises displaying the plural elements side-by-side to indicate concurrent execution of

3    the respective steps.


1        41.     (New) The article of claim 40, further comprising displaying other

2    elements in sequence with the plural side-by-side elements to indicate sequential

3    execution of other steps corresponding to the other elements.